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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

WASHINGTON

FRANCIS J. MCNAMARA, DIRECTOR

FRANK S. TAVENNER, JR., GENERAL COUNSEL
ALFRED M. NITTLE, COUNSEL

May 15, 1964

Mr. David Kahn

Dear Mr. Kahn:

This is in response to your letter of April 24 requesting that the Committee on Un-American Activities make available to you, for use in connection with a book you are writing, the transcript of its executive hearings on security practices in the National Security Agency.

The Committee's Rules of Procedure provide that "no testimony taken or material presented in an executive session, or any summary thereof shall be made public either in whole or in part unless authorized by a majority of the Committee or subcommittee."

Inasmuch as the Committee has not voted to make the NSA hearings public, the transcript of them cannot be made available to anyone outside of the Committee members and staff.

The hearings on the National Security Agency were held in executive session in order to protect the sensitive nature of the Agency. Even before commencing these hearings, the Committee gave its assurance to the Department of Defense that the testimony would be maintained in an executive status and not released for public consumption.

Enclosed is a reproduction of page 4 of the Committee's report, "Security Practices in the National Security Agency." I call your attention to the first two paragraphs on that page, and particularly the closing words of the second paragraph: "the committee will not make public the testimony acquired in executive sessions."

That was the Committee's decision as of the time its report was issued. The Committee has not since altered that decision, and I cannot conceive of its doing so now or at any time in the future.

Very truly yours,

Francis J. McNamara
Director

Enclosure

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MEMO

May 18, 1964

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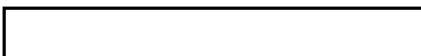
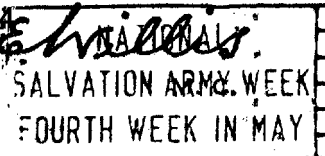
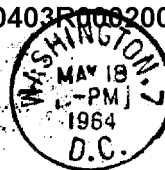
The enclosed letter should be
attached to the copy of the letter
from David Kahn which I forwarded to
you the other day for your information.

Francis J. McNamara

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COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

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Enclosure Missing